

Hello, I'm Kathy Frank, daughter of a WWII decorated soldier and deer hunter, a mother, grandmother, retired school psychologist and life long Michigan resident. I'm here today because I'm sad and I'm angry.

I'm sad because almost every evening newscast reports another family tragically impacted by gun violence. Sometimes it's a dead father, a dead mother, a dead mother-to-be, a brother, an uncle, or most tragically a son or daughter. And that doesn't even include the many more victims maimed by gun violence.

I'm angry because our legislature has presently chosen to focus on clarifying a way for our citizens to use deadly force with immunity rather than on ways to make our citizens, especially our most vulnerable ones, the children, safe from gun violence. Why is this legislature bothering with this bill that is superfluous since we already have the right to defend ourselves from deadly force? Why aren't they promoting a bill such as the Child Access Prevention bill that would be a positive step toward safety from gun violence for our children? Why haven't they promoted bills that would insist on background checks for every gun purchase and close the gun show loopholes? Common sense tells me that this attitude of the right to violence versus the right to protection from violence will only result in more sadness for Michigan families.

Finally, I'm also hopeful. I'm hopeful that there are people out there with common sense who will join me in truly helping Michigan be a safe state in which to raise our children by opposing this legislation and promoting gun safety bills. I want creative legislation that would keep children from killing themselves with found guns and prevent unsavory people from obtaining guns.

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